THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The role of Central Universities established by Acts of Parliament is, *inter-alia*, to help remove regional imbalances, to contribute a corporate intellectual life in the country and to further national integration. While Central Universities are expected to maintain their all-India character in admissions, appointments and the nature of their courses and programmes, opening of these Universities in each State is intended to ensure higher access and participation by eligible persons belonging to local population.

Enrolment of students in mid of academic year

2690. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several students are leaving Australia due to racist attack in that country and are coming back to India;

(b) if so, whether Government would provide them facilities of enrolling them in middle of their academic year or after one or two semesters of completing their study in Australia, in Indian Institutions;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how Government proposes to protect the career of these students who are leaving studies in the middle of their courses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) According to the information provided by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, there is no such data available.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Increasing lecturer-student ratio

2691. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to increase the lecturers ratio compared to the students in various faculties in each State, especially in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present ratio of lecturers and students, college-wise, State-wise especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) the steps being taken to allot more funds to recruit the lecturers in each State especially in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission has prescribed the norm of teacher-student ratio as 1:20 for general courses. The teacher-student ratio in technical and professional education institutions is decided by the concerned statutory council.